

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03995 161457Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 NEAE-00 IO-13

SSM-03 ACDA-07 EUR-12 DHA-02 /088 W

-----053302 161500Z /50

O R 161343Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4890

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 3995

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLO, LE

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE DISAGREEMENT IN PLO

1. TWO RECENT STATEMENTS BY PALESTINIAN OFFICIALS SUGGEST DISAGREEMENT WITHIN PLO OVER WHETHER TO COUNT ON UNITED STATES TO HELP ACHIEVE MIDDLE EAST PEACE. ON ONE HAND, HEAD OF PLO'S FOREIGN INFORMATION BUREAU, MAHMOUD LABADI, PUBLISHED SIGNED ARTICLE IN AUGUST 14 IKI, WHICH IMPLIED THAT WASHINGTON WOULD ATTEMPT TO PROMOTE JUST SOLUTION. ON OTHER HAND, HEAD OF PLO'S POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, FARROUK KADDOUMI, GAVE INTERVIEW IN AUGUST 15 MONDAY MORNING, WHICH CLAIMED AMERICANS WERE SEEKING TO BETRAY PALESTINIAN INTERESTS. NEVERTHELESS, EVEN KADDOUMI SHOWED SOME SENSITIVITY TO AMERICAN CONCERNS.

2. ALTHOUGH CHARACTERIZING VANCE'S MISSION AS "FAILURE," LABADI HAD PERHAPS KINDEST PUBLIC WORDS EVER UTTERED BY PLO OFFICIAL FOR AMERICAN LEADERS. HE SAID SECRETARY "WON HEARTS OF PRESS AND PEOPLE WITH HIS HUMILITY AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 03995 161457Z

SHOW OF GOOD INTENTIONS," AND REFLECTED "GOOD INTENTIONS OF PRESIDENT CARTER." (LABADI NEVERTHELESS CAUTIONED THAT "GOOD INTENTIONS" WERE NOT ENOUGH, AND US HAD TO BRING PRESSURE ON ISRAEL AND BEGIN TALKS WITH PALESTINISNS.)

3. IN CONTRAST, KADDOUMI CALLED VANCE'S MISSION "NEW

CONSPIRACY," AIMED AT "WORKING AGAINST PALESTINIAN RIGHTS" AND "PUSHING SOVIET UNION OUT OF MIDDLE EAST." KADDOUMI ADDED: "ISRAEL ITSELF DOES NOT TRUST PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES...IF ISRAEL DOES NOT TRUST UNITED STATES, HOW CAN WE?"

4. LABADI REPEATED THEME OF RECENT PLO PUBLIC STATEMENTS THAT AMENDMENT TO UN SECRETARY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242 WAS "BASIC PRECONDITION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF JUST AND DURABLE PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST." KADDOUMI SAID "WE REJECT RESOLUTION 242, BECAUSE THAT RESOLUTION DISREGARDS OUR RIGHTS, AND BECAUSE IT IMPLIES RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL WITHIN SECURE BORDERS." HE ELABORATED THAT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS WERE "NEVER AMENDED," AND UNLESS US ALLOWED SECURITY COUNCIL TO PASS NEW RESOLUTION, "ALL AMERICAN STATEMENTS WILL REMAIN MEANINGLESS."

5. LABADI AFFIRMED THAT PLO'S DEMAND TO AMEND RESOLUTION 242 "DID NOT BY ANY MEANS IMPLY READINESS TO RECOGNIZE ZIONIST STATE," BUT STOPPED SHORT OF SAYING PLO WOULD CATEGORICALLY REFUSE TO DO SO. KADDOUMI WARNED "WE REFUSE TO BE REGARDED AS REFUGEES, TO RELINQUISH OUR NATIONAL RIGHTS, OR TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL."

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 03995 161457Z

6. DESPITE APPARENTLY UNCOMPROMISING STANCE, HOWEVER, KADDOUMI DEMONSTRATED SOME SENSITIVITY TO US CONCERNS. HE REPEATED "WE ARE WILLING TO ESTABLISH OUR INDEPENDENT STATE ON ANY PART OF OUR LAND." HE ALSO REPEATED THAT "WE ARE IN FAVOR" OF LINK BETWEEN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE AND JORDAN, BUT THAT INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE WAS "VITAL PREREQUISITE" TO SUCH A LINK. HE SAID ARAB OIL EMBARGO SHOULD BE USED ONLY FOR "POSITIVE PRESSURE" AND WOULD BE "COMPARABLE TO USE OF ATOMIC BOMB BY OTHER SIDE."

7. FINALLY, KADDOUMI IMPLIED PLO WOULD NOT REQUIRE SEPARATE SEATING AT GENEVA, BUT WOULD DEMAND SEPARATE INVITATION. HE SAID PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION AT GENEVA CONFERENCE "CAN BE SETTLED EASILY AMONG ARABS," BUT "WE INSIST" THAT INVITATION TO ATTEND BE "DIRECTED TO PLO DIRECTLY."

8. COMMENT: THESE CONFLICTING STATEMENTS SUGGEST PLO LEADERSHIP IS STILL TRYING TO WORK OUT ITS POSITION IN RESPONSE TO LATEST USG STATEMENTS.  
PARKER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISSIDENT FACTIONS, PEACE PLANS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 16-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BEIRUT03995  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770295-0304  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770859/aaaabxvj.tel  
**Line Count:** 116  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 440e635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1594382  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POSSIBLE DISAGREEMENT IN PLO  
**TAGS:** PINT, MPOL, LE, XF, US, PLO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/440e635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009